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### (54) LIQUID CRYSTAL SUBSTANCE

#### (57) Abstract:

NEW MATERIAL: A liquid crystal substance of benzyl phenylether structure shown by formula I [R is 1-20C alkyl or alkoxy; R\* is optically active group and contains asymmetric carbon atom; X is group shown by formula II or formula III; I is 1-3; R' is H or lower alkyl; Y is -COO- or -O-; (A) and (B) are each independently group shown by formula IV-formula VII, etc.; further when (A) is group shown by formula VII, (B) and X are each single bond].

EXAMPLE: [(+)-1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-decyl-4-(4'-octyloxybiphenyl-4"-methyleneoxy) benzoate].

USE: Useful as a component for liquid crystal composition or electric display element having photochemical and chemical stability and large spontaneous polarization,

showing high-speed response and applicable to optical switching, etc.

PREPARATION: For example, a compound shown by formula VIII as a starting raw material is processed through a compound shown by formula IX to give a compound shown by the formula I.

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